

App. Serial No. 09/877,724
Docket No. STFD.059PA
Office Action Response AF

In the Drawings:

Please enter the requested summary figure, which is the attached new Drawing Sheet labeled Fig. 17 into the patent application. No new matter is introduced by way of this amendment.

App. Serial No. 09/877,724
Docket No. STFD.059PA
Office Action Response AF

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

AUG 31 2006

Remarks

Applicant appreciates the courtesy extended by the Examiner in the communications of this week in connection with the above-presented clarifying amendments to claims 72 and 80, and the request for an additional summary figure (e.g., tracking with FIG. 7, p.17, and p.21:15-30, pp.25-26, and example implementations of the claimed invention). While 35 U.S.C. § 113 does not require this figure in view of the record, Applicant agrees that the additional figure is helpful to summarize the previous discussion provided in the detailed description.

The Office Action dated May 31, 2006, indicated that claims 63-87 are allowed, and claim 61 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Applicant's Fig. 3 in view of Thomson *et al.* (U.S. 6,498,820). Applicant appreciates the indication of allowance for claims 63-87. By canceling claim 61 (while preserving Applicant's right to maintain the traversal of claim 61), Applicant has addressed and overcome all outstanding rejections and objections.

In view of the above discussion, Applicant believes that each of the rejections has been addressed and/or overcome and the application is in condition for allowance. A favorable response is requested. Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (651) 686-6633.

Respectfully submitted,

CRAWFORD MAUNU PLLC
1270 Northland Drive, Suite 390
St. Paul, MN 55120
651/686-6633

Dated: August 31, 2006

By: 

Robert J. Crawford
Reg. No. 32,122